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House Engrossed

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2003

HOUSE BILL 2187

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT RESTRUCTURING PILOT PROGRAM.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. School district restructuring pilot program;
3 requirements; report

4 A. On or before January 1, 2004, the department of education shall
5 implement a five-year pilot program for the restructuring of school
6 districts. The department of education shall select one union high school
7 district located in a county with a population of at least one million five
8 hundred thousand persons and may select one school district located in a
9 county with a population of less than two hundred thousand persons to
10 participate in the pilot program. The department of education shall identify
11 the common school districts that will participate in the pilot program in
12 connection with the selection of a union high school district.

13 B. The department of education shall adopt selection criteria for
14 school districts to participate in the pilot program.

15 C. Each school district that is selected to participate in the pilot
16 program shall allow the following to occur:

17 1. The county school superintendent shall form a special school
18 district within the existing school district that consists of one high school
19 and no more than four junior high schools and no more than eight elementary
20 schools.

21 2. The existing school district governing board shall have no
22 authority over or responsibility for the special school district for the
23 duration of the pilot program.

24 3. No administrative personnel other than school principals shall be
25 employed at or interact with personnel working at the special school district
26 or pupils enrolled at a school within the special school district for the
27 duration of the pilot program.

28 4. The county school superintendent of the county where the special
29 school district is located succeeds to the authority, powers, duties and
30 responsibilities of the school district governing board with respect to the
31 administrative duties of the special school district for the duration of the
32 pilot program.

33 5. Each school principal of a school in the special school district
34 shall succeed to the authority, powers, duties and responsibilities of the
35 school district governing board with respect to the day-to-day operations of
36 each school for the duration of the pilot program, including the hiring,
37 discipline and termination of school employees.

38 6. School councils established pursuant to section 15-351, Arizona
39 Revised Statutes, shall succeed to the authority, powers, duties and
40 responsibilities of the school district governing board for the duration of
41 the pilot program with respect to the oversight of each school.

42 D. The department of education shall submit an annual report on or
43 before December 1 that summarizes the results of the pilot program, including
44 a summary of the academic achievement of pupils that participate in the pilot
45 program, cost savings and recommendations for proposed legislation, to the

1 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of
2 the senate and provide a copy of this report to the secretary of state and
3 the director of the Arizona state library, archives and public records.

4 Sec. 2. House select committee on the school district
5 restructuring pilot program

6 A. The house select committee on the school district restructuring
7 pilot program is established consisting of:

8 1. The chairperson of the education committee of the house of
9 representatives.

10 2. Two additional members of the house of representatives who are
11 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. One of these
12 members shall be a member of the education committee of the house of
13 representatives.

14 3. The superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's
15 designee.

16 4. A county school superintendent from a county with a population of
17 at least one million persons who is appointed by the speaker of the house of
18 representatives.

19 5. An administrator who is employed by a school district in this state
20 and who is appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

21 B. The committee shall:

22 1. Adopt a plan to implement the school district restructuring pilot
23 program, including sources of funding and recommendations for the selection
24 of one or more specific school districts to participate in the pilot program.

25 2. On or before December 31, 2003, submit a report to the governor,
26 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate
27 that contains the committee's findings and recommendations, including any
28 proposed legislative changes. The committee shall provide a copy of the
29 report to the secretary of state and the director of the Arizona state
30 library, archives and public records.

31 C. The committee may utilize the services of legislative staff and the
32 staff of the department of education.

33 Sec. 3. Delayed repeal

34 This act is repealed from and after June 30, 2009.